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EARTHQUAKE and FIRE

That Destroyed Frisco Described
by Will Currin Formerly
of this City.

Extracts from a Personal Letter
Written Day of Disaster and
While Conflagration was at
Its Height.

From a personal letter written by Will Currin, the fifteen year old son of Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Currin, who resided here a few years ago and who was attending college at Oakland, Cal., at the time of the earthquake, we were permitted to make a few extracts. The letter was written on April 18, the day of the disaster and in plain sight of the great fire which was then at its height. It is as follows:

Perhaps you have heard of the "seismic disturbances" up here. If you have don't be alarmed upon my account, for I am all right except for a backache from totting some few millions of brick-bats. (Just now a shock disturbed us, went ally and otherwise.) To begin at the beginning.

This morning at 5:14, I suddenly was awakened by a lot of plaster falling on my head, and having the looking glasses, windows and all else dancing Irish Jigs, and feeling a certain motion, the like of which I have read about, forthwith decided that bed was no place for me, and that the lowest corner of the room was infinitely better, under the eaves. So as not to get cold, I took the bed clothes along with me. After some hours of quaking, both outwardly and inwardly, I ventured to arise from my place of refuge and betook myself back to bed. There I did not remain long as the family around and below were making a fairly respectable Bedlam, and getting my clothes upon me went down stairs. Having looked at my clock, which had not stopped, I found that the whole "blama" had only occupied a few minutes. Just the same that shock lasted about four hours.

Down stairs I encountered various feminine creatures attired in night gowns and took myself outside and began picking up glass and brick-bats. In this pleasing occupation I continued, with two or three intervals for breakfast which I consumed rather intermittently, until about eight o'clock when I dressed and having placed all, my capital, 20 cents, in my pocket, went over to the college.

Things there were all smashed up. Stove-pipes down, black boards cracked to pieces, library all over the floor, the specimens, animal and mineral, in the museum lying around here and there, chimneys down and where Miss Bowman's room had been situated, a mass of lumber, books, bricks, mortar, desks, etc. A chimney had come thru the roof. No school to be had that day. When we were up in Miss Bowman's room shortly after 8 a. m., a second shock occurred which caused a great deal of confusion.

Upon looking at Prof. Gardner's place, I saw his large library seeking the most convenient resting place on the floor, and looking round deposited my books and lunch among the debris. I found most of the fellows had gone to either the city or down in Oakland, and from those who had returned from the latter place, learned how things were generally destroyed. They say the large building on 13th and Broadway has been moved 11 inches. From a distance of six blocks it appears all right. Upon hearing the various reports I was fired with an ambition to go over to the city, especially as the whole town was reported to be on fire and buildings were being dynamited.

We boarded the train at the E. Oakland Station, the S. P. is the only thing running in Oakland, and got to the mole after a time, to find that no one was allowed to cross except doctors. Our crowd hung around the mole for the rest of the morning trying to get on some boat, (two of the fellows got on one only to be turned around in mid bay and brought back) watching the people, listening to the accounts of the refugees pouring in from every boat that crossed and watching the blazing city, for by this time all the central part of the city from Water Front as far back as one could see was burning fiercely. From time to time one could hear the reports of dynamite as some building was blown up. I hear them every minute now, but further than the Shot Tower, one could not see for the great overhanging pall of smoke that lay over the city, rising high into the sky and obscuring the very clouds. Occasionally the top floors of the "Call" building would be distinguished, showing that as yet it was intact. The Ferry building seemed untouched by the flames, but from people fleeing from the city we learned that the shock had knocked it all skewer-wise.

For a certain distance on each side of the Ferry Building the cloud of smoke arose, with gigantic sheets of flame beneath, hiding all the farther central part of the city, but on each side, and more especially the North side, not a flame or bit of smoke arose, showing the limits of the burning



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FLAMES SWEEPING OVER SAN FRANCISCO AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE.

district very well defined. All kinds of impossible tales were flying about. Every fellow who had escaped and was disposed to linger on his way had a circle of listeners around him, and each was telling a different story.

Some of us came home about 1 o'clock, and after a time several of the fellows who had gone to the city early came back and told us how things were. In some parts the damage done was so great, the ruin so complete, that for blocks they were forced to go around the wreckage, on streets that were not choked. One said that not so many dead were visible to the eye, but hundreds of coffins, and not uncoccupied, were lying around in all directions. From this it would seem that, until a certain hour, at least, the number of dead was not such as to overwhelm these appointed to collect them. In places the gutters were literally running with liquors and thousands of people were arming themselves against the terrors of earthquake and fire by continued application of "aqua vitae."

People were to be seen with strings of chickens around their necks and arms full of things rescued from buildings gutted by the flames. I wish that you could see Frisco now. Just imagine a row of four miles of gigantic founderies, with flames pouring from every stack and immense clouds of smoke rolling above in the lurid glare. Magnify it fifty times and you have an idea how San Francisco looks at the present moment. Every minute now we hear the deep boom that tells of some building gone, in a desperate endeavor to check the flames. It is the only way. The water is off, gas, electricity, everything, and the city is under martial law.

Over here in Oakland the night is as calm and peaceful as if there was no such thing as earthquakes. It is, in fact, remarkable how little the town has suffered, all the chimneys off, a few brick buildings damaged, the ground shaken up some around Merritt, and they say some little damage done in Berkeley. The hills up there offering a rather precarious holding on place, and some buildings down in Old Oakland are, as far as I know, about all the damage there is done. The street cars in Oakland have been running ever since 10 a. m. Thursday and the papers have been special editions every few hours. Yesterday a paper was printed in Oakland, the Call-Chronicle-Examiner. Today the Examiner is out again, printed at the Tribune office. The Oakland Herald, Tribune and Enquirer reap rich harvest.

Marriage Licenses.
Frank J. Sonner and Emily S. Tinsatt, both of Mowrytown.
Herbert M. Fite and Daisy R. Rossett, both of Buford.

William Workman and Pearl Sprinkle, both of Dodsonville.
Clarence A. West, Rainbows, and Flora Rebecca Taylor, New Petersburg.

Albert J. Johnson and Minnie Morris, both of Hillsboro.
Harry E. Chance and Helena C. Dillon, both of Hillsboro.

How's This?
We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.
F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligations made by him.
W. L. DRUGGIST, Toledo, O.
Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price, 75c. per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.
Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.



FERRYBOAT OAKLAND CROWDED WITH REFUGEES.

With but comparatively slight interruptions the ferry service between San Francisco and Oakland was maintained throughout the days of earthquake and fire, and the boats were packed with refugees, most of whom were compelled to leave behind them in the ferry house the few bulky belongings they had saved from the wrecks of their homes because there was no room for such things.

Chicago's Steps Towards Municipal Ownership.

As a matter of fact, the defeat of "operation" is of no practical moment, as Mayor Dunne realizes. It may even prove a blessing in disguise. The city is not ready for "operation." The certificates must be tested; if legal and good, they must be marketed. These processes will take time. "Operation" can be submitted again to the people. The important task is the conversion of private into municipal ownership, and to this the mayor must now address himself. He has reverted to his original (and superior) "contract plan, and has even invited the present companies to resolve themselves into construction or reconstruction companies and consent to operate under a lease or license on terms fair to both parties and with the express understanding that the properties are to be turned over to the city on demand and for a price equal to their actual value as measured by the fresh capital then invested plus the physical value of the old equipment still fit for service. Should the companies prove themselves irreconcilable, a new company will be invited into the field to act as an agent of the city and work for a reasonable dividend. In that event, the remnant of the exploded claims of the present companies will have to be taken over under condemnation proceedings.

It is the conviction of sober-minded Chicagoans that "municipal ownership is coming" in their city, coming as the result of the legal victory in the federal Supreme Court and the politico-moral victory at the polls. Mayor Dunne's term expires in April, 1907; the time is, indeed, short, but the greatest obstacles have been removed. Still, prophecy would be rash. Other obstacles, legal and financial, are yet to be encountered. The mayor is yet to do what he can; he will take step after step toward municipal ownership and operation. Let us hope that he will avoid mistakes and facilitate co-operation with him on the part of the independent, public-spirited press and enlightened, disinterested citizenship.—From "Immediate Municipal Ownership" in Chicago, a Year After," in the American Monthly Review of Reviews for May.

Your Summer Vacation
can be pleasantly spent at Waukesh, Waupaca, Elfeld, or at one of the other hundred resorts reached via Wisconsin Central Railway. Write for beautifully illustrated Summer Book, which tells you how, when and where to go, and how much it will cost. Free on application to JAS. C. POND, G. P. A., Wisconsin Central R'y, Milwaukee, Wis.

PAY ALL LOSSES.

Copy of a Letter to Frank Ayres, of the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company, Chicago.

April 19, 1906.
Dear Sir:—The crippling of the telegraph lines makes it impossible to determine the amount of loss sustained by the Great British, resulting from the direful calamity that yesterday, according to meager information at hand, practically wrecked the great metropolis of the Pacific Coast.
While our Executives do not know the amount of the Company's liability, which no doubt will be heavy, they do know that the vast resources of the great North British & Mercantile Insurance Company are fully ample to meet all requirements. Our London office has accordingly, by cable, instructed our United States Branch Office that all recognized claims will be promptly paid by funds from the London Office, thus enabling the United States assets to remain intact. Their well known liberality, as exemplified in their contribution of \$5000 to the sufferers in the Chicago fire of 1871, has again made itself manifest, and they have also instructed our United States Branch Office to contribute \$5000 to the fund for alleviating the sufferers in San Francisco. Such actions, as above briefly noted, are well worthy of being added to the Company's "Roll of Honor," from which we briefly quote their payments, as follows:

\$2,330,000 in losses paid by the Chicago fire, October, 1871; 750,000 in losses paid by the Boston fire, November, 1872; \$800,000 in losses paid by the St. John (N. B.) fire, June, 1877; \$148,924.40 paid in losses by the Jacksonville (Fla.) fire, May, 1901; \$792,333.24 paid in losses at Baltimore fire, February 7, 1904.

We feel you will be glad to learn of the prompt and liberal position of the "Old North British" and to join with the undersigned in expressions of renewed confidence in the rock-like stability of the North British & Mercantile Insurance Company.

Yours very truly,
W. J. LITTLEJOHN, Manager.
Frank Ayres, Local Agent, Hillsboro, Ohio.

Wanted Wool.
The Hillsboro Wool Co., are now in the market for this year's clip of wool. Our ware room is same place as heretofore, Brightman Bros., south High Street.

Scarborough—Real Estate.

Real Estate Transfers.

Perry A. Roads to James Weaver, Salem tp., 72 a., \$2000.
Howard W. Ault to Melissa Kniesley, Marshall tp., 1 a., \$1 etc.
Thomas M. Prumpt to Sarah E. Bruce, Rainbows, lot, \$350.
L. A. Beuler to Charles Walker, Mowrytown, lot, \$60.
L. A. Beuler to Mack Walker, Mowrytown, lot, \$60.
Ira Strop to Berge Sonner, Whiteoak tp., 1 a., \$10.
W. W. Workman to B. C. Sonner, Whiteoak tp., 1 a., \$30.
Lewis Leininger to Al R. Williams, New Market tp., 5 1/2 a., \$1000.
Arthur D. McConaughy to G. H. McConaughy, New Market tp., 21 a., q. c., \$50.
T. L. McConaughy et al to G. H. McConaughy, New Market tp., 3 a., q. c., \$1 etc.
H. J. Webster to M. J. Ludwick, Ailensburg, lots, \$1225.
Oliver M. Roush to Ruth E. Roush, New Market tp., 30 a., q. c., \$1 etc.
Flora Gilmore to Nanna C. Roberts, Jackson tp., 52 a., \$300.
Albert Fenner to Emma Shull, Liberty tp., 82 1/2 a., \$3500.
Ruth E. Roush to Oliver M. Roush, New Market tp., 50 a., q. c., \$1 etc.

Common Pleas Court.

Court has not been open during the past week, consequently there has not been much business in the Common Pleas Court. Five cases were filed during the week as follows:

George Underwood vs. Katie N. Underwood. Divorce. Plaintiff states he was married to defendant on the 27th day of April, 1903, at Springfield, Ohio, and alleges gross neglect of duty, in that, defendant has frequently left his home and become intoxicated and found in such a state on the street; plaintiff also charges defendant with adultery with men whose names are to him unknown, at the "Taylor Bull Road House," Dayton, Ohio, and at Springfield, Ohio, during the months of October and November 1905. Coke L. Doster, Attorney for plaintiff.

Moore P. Hunter vs. Sarah E. Hunter. Divorce. Plaintiff says he was married to defendant on or about the 14th day of October, 1883, at Taylorsville, and that three children born of such marriage are now living. A charge of gross neglect of duty is made. James A. Wilkins and D. Q. Morrow, Attys. for plaintiff.

Viola Heasley vs. Lee Heasley. Attachment. Plaintiff alleges that on the 7th day of March 1901, she loaned the defendant the sum of \$550.00 and that no note or other evidence of indebtedness was taken therefor. Plaintiff claims there is due her from defendant said amount with interest from said date. Irvin McD. Smith, Attorney for plaintiff.

Laura Holt vs. Donald McConaughy et al. Partition. D. Q. Morrow, Attorney for plaintiffs.

H. M. Vanzant vs. Edward Vanzant et al. Partition. J. W. Watts, Attorney for plaintiff.

School Report.

The enrollment in the Hillsboro schools for the year to date is 453 boys, 471 girls, total 924. The average monthly enrollment for April was 396.9 boys, 366.8 girls, total 763.7. The average daily attendance was 340.4 boys, 366.5 girls, total 706.9. The per cent of attendance was for the boys 92.1 per cent, girls 92.3 per cent, total 92.5 per cent. 193 boys, 218 girls, total 411 were neither absent nor tardy.

There were 37 cases of tardiness, 24 of which were made by the High School, 18 of the 19 rooms in the grades had no tardiness. The Superintendent made 88 visits to the various rooms while the patrons of the schools made 23 visits during the month. The Savings Bank deposits were \$86.04. The attendance is a little better than it was for the preceding month, but considerably below what it was for the same month last year. This is accounted for by the prevalence of sickness. Just now measles seems to have the upper hand, about half the pupils in the first grades being out on that account. Notwithstanding this handicap teachers and pupils are working hard to finish up the year work creditably.

F. H. WARREN, Supt.

Failed to Prosecute.

The preliminary hearing of Scott Skeen, who was charged with bribery at the local option election, was called in Squire Miller's court Monday but the prosecution failed to appear and he was discharged. No effort was made to prosecute the charge of illegal voting made against W. Zimery and he was also discharged.

Both of the offenses charged were grave ones and should have been prosecuted regardless of the result of the election. It would have been only justice to the accused men to have had a trial and been given a chance to prove their innocence and clear their names. If they were guilty they should have been punished to the limit of the law.

McMillan Resigned.

S. T. McMillan tendered his resignation as Marshall of Hillsboro to council and it was accepted at a special meeting of council Saturday evening. He has accepted a contract for house moving that will take him away from Hillsboro several months. Mayor Costello on Sunday morning swore in J. C. G. Lyle as special officer to fill the vacancy until the regular meeting of council next Monday evening.

Dental Anesthesia.

Somnoforme is the quickest, simplest and the safest of all anesthetics. It is the invention of Dr. G. Rolland, late House surgeon to the Paris hospitals, professor of Anesthetics Dean, of the Dental school and hospital of Bordeaux, France. Has the endorsement of all the leading surgeons, physicians and dentists of America. Drs. Holmes and Rogers have been giving somnoforme with perfect success. Try it the next time you have a tooth extracted.

Rhode Island Reds.

Eggs \$1.00 per setting. Prize strain cockerels \$1.00 each. A. GRAY, Hillsboro, O., Route 2.

BRIGHT PROSPECTS

Of Securing For Hillsboro A
Shoe Factory Employing
About 200 Hands.

Liberal Responses Made by Our Citizens to Call of Business Men's Association For Financial Aid.

At the call of the Business Men's Association the court house was crowded on last Friday evening with citizens interested in securing the location of the proposed shoe factory in this place. Geo. L. Garrett, president of the association, called the meeting to order and made a short speech setting forth the benefits that would accrue to our business men and property owners by the location of a factory here employing from 150 to 200 hands.

Irvin McD. Smith, chairman of the committee that had been appointed to investigate the standing of the firm that proposes to locate here spoke next. He gave a very flattering report of the financial standing, which was corroborated by Jakob Feibel and Sam R. Free.

The proposition under which the factory can be secured was discussed by numerous persons and all seemed impressed that it would result in great benefit to our city. The expense to our city will be considerable but if divided among all will not be much to any one individual. No attempt was made to start a subscription paper at this time. Upon motion the chair was instructed to appoint a committee to call on all citizens and secure contributions. The members of the committee are O. N. Sams, Sam R. Free, J. C. Spargur, L. Beecher, George Cooper and F. F. Stevens. On Tuesday many of our citizens were called upon by the committee and very liberal subscriptions received. In fact the responses were better than expected and the indications are that sufficient money can be raised to secure the enterprise.

The Irrepressible Conflict.

As the days pass away it seems more probable that the popular demand for a rate bill will be ignored—that the people will get a stone in place of the bread prayed for; possibly a serpent instead of a fish. It is a very important juncture in our political history.

The vehemence with which the railroad senators are fighting the proposition to make the interstate commission a tribunal to adjudicate grievances of shippers, indicates an excessive anxiety about something, and that anxiety seems to be for the people, who are almost unanimous to have some machinery, that will see that justice is not crushed by delay and expense.

That is the cause of the people, and the cause of the railroads is that it is unconstitutional to do this. What the people imagine to be a great wrong to themselves is to be removed by constitutional construction, not constitutional construction by the supreme court, but by a few senators whose concern for the constitution seems, at this time, to be quite excessive. There have been times when it was mild and concisive, in comparison with what it is now.

But the thing that the people take to heart about this rate business is the disposition of the senate to resist those tendencies toward the elevation of the public welfare over private interest; in other words, against the aggression of corporate monopoly, and the supremacy of organized wealth in the affairs of the nation. This is no whimsical or temporary attitude of the people. It arises from the deepest logic and from a sense of justice that will keep alive until settled on some other doctrine than that of a strict and unyielding construction of the constitution. The people do not propose that constitutional construction, however backed by precedent, shall stifle justice with schemes of delay, which compose the influence that contend for broad court review. The question is up, and the stars in heaven will help win a victory for the cause of the people, if not this year, then next. John D. Rockefeller and Nelson W. Aldrich will not run this country. This is no family affair.—Ohio State Journal.

DEBATE.

Hillsboro vs. Greenfield.

The debate between Hillsboro and Greenfield will be held at Greenfield Friday evening, May 4. The question is—Resolved:—That Municipal Ownership of Public Utilities is Inexpedient. The debaters from Hillsboro are Lena McCoppin, Galloway Hibben and Richard Evans. They are working hard on their debates and an interesting contest is anticipated. There will be quite a number of High School students go as well as a number of people in town. It is hoped that every one that can possibly do so will go and encourage our debaters.

For fine tailoring call on Phil Thielen, West Main street.